

Brookhaven Town Awarded \$920,000 in State Grants for Environmental Projects

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Farmingville, NY – Brookhaven Town Supervisor Ed Romaine announced today that the Town of Brookhaven has been granted \$921,000 in New York State Regional Economic Development Council Awards for three projects to improve the environment. The grants were announced by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo on Thursday, December 8.

Supervisor Romaine said, "We live on an island, and protecting our bays, beaches and waterways is vital to the environment and the local economy. Thanks to the support of the New York State Regional Economic Development Council, these grant awards will help us move forward on three projects that will improve water quality and be very beneficial to the wildlife population."

Brookhaven will receive \$388,500 for pump-out facilities on both the North and South Shore. The Town will construct new pump-out facilities in Patchogue and Port Jefferson and expand capacity at the Mount Sinai facility. The project will prevent wastewater from boats being discharged directly into Mt. Sinai Harbor, Port Jefferson Harbor, Long Island Sound and Great South Bay, which will reduce pathogens in the these waterbodies.

A second grant of \$345,000 was awarded for a fish ladder in Swan River in East Patchogue. With these funds, the Town will construct a fish and eel passage on the west side of the existing spillway and dam of Swan River. The project will restore river herring to the upper Swan River and enhance access to habitat by American eels and native Brook Trout.

Brookhaven Town also received \$187,500 for water quality improvement projects. The Town will inventory all outfalls located in the Town and use the information collected to develop a prioritization of waterbodies in need of structural retrofits. The project will improve the water quality of impaired water bodies by determining the actual source of impairments.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor

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